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Patent claims

- 10 1. Control panel (1) especially for automotive vehicles, which has a frame structure (3) constructed from linear elements (2), areas (4) of the frame structure which are delimited by linear elements being sealed at least partially by plastic sheet elements (5), the plastic sheet elements being
15 connected to the linear elements by an integral material connection,
characterised in that the linear elements consist of a fibre material, these elements being impregnated with the same thermoplastic plastics material as
20 that of which the plastic sheet elements consist.
2. Control panel according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the cross-section of the linear elements, when installed in the control panel, is U-shaped, round, oval or polygonal.
- 25 3. Control panel according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the linear element is a strip of a honeycomb sandwich structure.
4. Control panel according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the control panel (1)
30 is covered with a decorative layer substantially over the entire surface of its upper side.

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5. Method for manufacturing a control panel or some other part of an automotive vehicle according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** linear elements (2) are inserted into a mould cavity (6) of an injection mould or compression mould and then are surrounded at least partially by plastics material in the mould, forming the control panel, strips (7) of a fibre material being inserted into a depression (9a) of a first mould half (8a) of the injection mould and then a second mould half (8b), which has a bulge corresponding to the depression, being brought into alignment with the first mould half in such a way that at least in regions a gap (6) remains between the two and then a plastics material is injected into the cavity (6).
6. Method according to claim 5, **characterised in that** the linear elements (2) are inserted as a prefabricated self-supporting frame.
7. Method according to claim 5, **characterised in that** the linear elements (2) are inserted as individual pieces.
8. Method according to claim 5, **characterised in that** the linear elements are inserted as bundles of continuous fibres or as strips of mat material, the mat material being embodied as a single-layer or multilayer non-woven or woven fabric.
9. Control panel, produced in a method according to one of claims 5 to 8.
10. Automotive vehicle containing a control panel according to one of claims 1 to 4 or claim 9, **characterised in that** the frame structure (3) may be connected directly to the end wall and/or the body of the vehicle.

AMENDMENT